

Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai]

(d) whether they are aware that on account of the above breach in the road, the Therukal which feeds several tanks such as Therukulam, Thandayarkulam, Nambikulam etc., has also become unserviceable and consequently the ryots in the above places are put to much inconvenience and loss?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The work will be done in the next working season.

(d) No. Water was let down the Therukal and the tanks referred to after closing the breach before the irrigation season of 1119.

*Construction of a tank in Thoala*

5. Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they are aware that estimates have been sanctioned and contracts given for the construction of a tank for water for drinking purposes in Thoala as early as 1116, and

(b) will they be pleased to enquire into the cause for the inordinate delay in completing the construction of the above tank in view of the fact that the people are put to considerable difficulty in getting drinking water during the major portion of the year?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: (a) Yes.

(b) The delay is due to the following reasons viz.

(1) that the lands were handed over to the department late,

(2) that the work can be done only during the closure season; and

(3) that there was some difficulty in getting the work done through the contractor selected due to increase in the cost of labour.

*Standing Committee for the improvement of tanks.*

6. Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) how many meetings were held by the Standing Committee for the improvement of tanks, storage and reservoirs in the Nagercoil Division during 1118 and 1119,

(b) whether the Committee has allotted any amount for the improvement of such tanks during the above said period, and

(c) the number of irrigation tanks to be investigated for improvement in Thoala and Agastiswaram taluks, the number of tanks investigated for improvement and the number actually improved together with the amount allotted and expended for such improvement and the balance left unexpended?